

DRAM205: PHYSICAL THEATRE IN SOUTH AFRICA AND THE AFRICAN DIASPORA

- **A style of theatre that breaks the conventions and boundaries of drama and dance ...**
- **A style of theatre that uses whatever the creators need in order to communicate ...**
- **A style of theatre making that comes at a time in history when there is a need to find new ways to tell stories ...**
- **A style of theatre that uses the BODY as the prime means of communication ... what we call “*the politics of the body*”**



“The Politics of the Body”

**What does this
mean?**



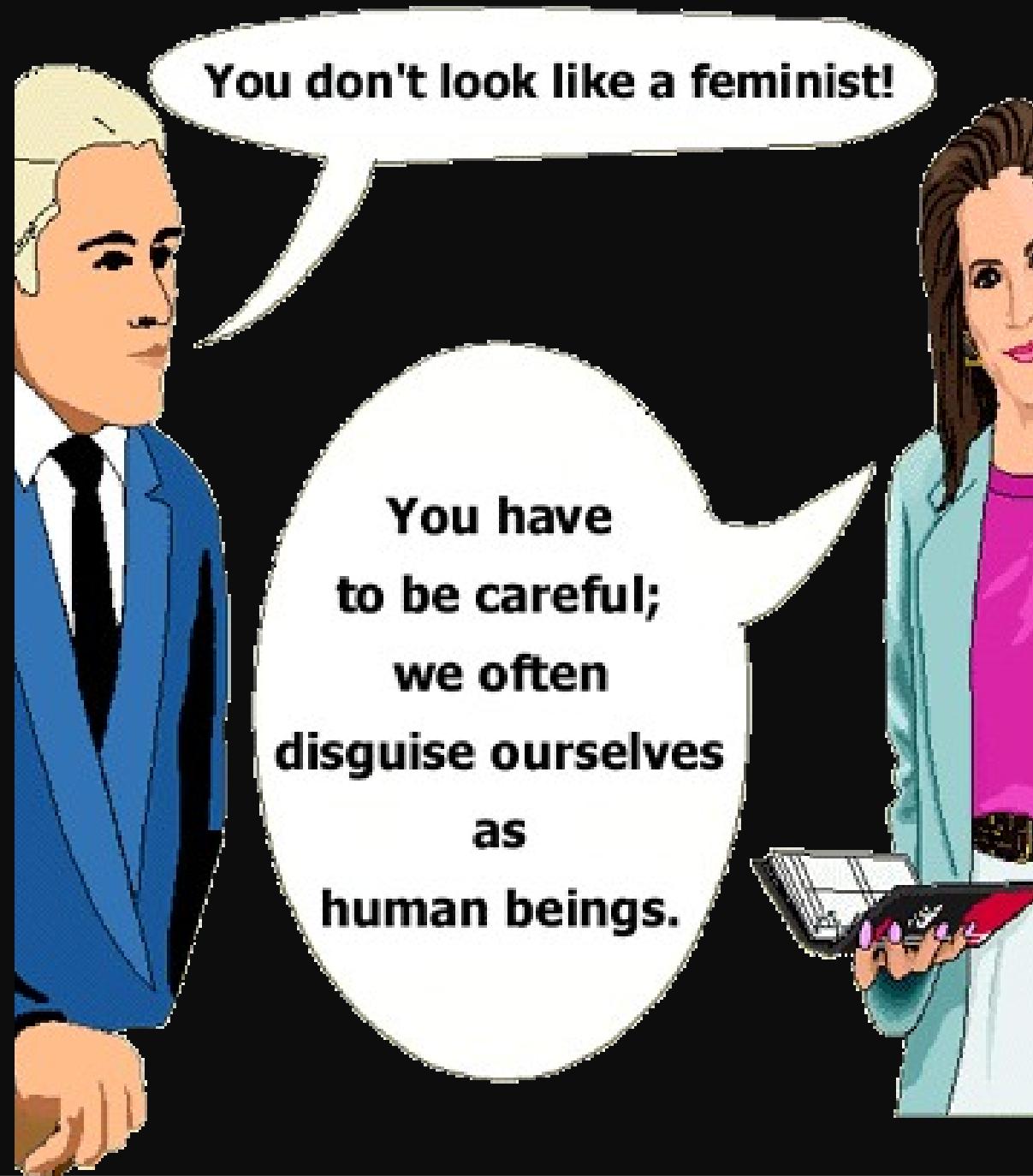
RACE

- RACE is a category of power (and identity).
- How does our society offer space for people of different races?
- What does it mean to be black?
- What does it mean to be white?
- What does it mean to be coloured? Indian?
- How do we experience race IN OUR BODY?
- How does PHYSICAL THEATRE respond to the politics of race?



GENDER

- **GENDER** is a category of power (and identity).
- How does our society offer space for people of different genders?
- What does it mean to be female?
- What does it mean to be male?
- What does it mean to be part of the gender continuum of LGBTQI+?
- How do we experience gender IN OUR BODY?
- How does PHYSICAL THEATRE respond to the politics of gender?



CLASS

- **CLASS is a category of power (and identity).**
- **How does our society offer space for people of different classes?**
- **What does it mean to be rich?**
- **What does it mean to be poor?**
- **How do we experience class IN OUR BODY?**
- **How does PHYSICAL THEATRE respond to the politics of class?**



Other categories of power (and identity)

....

- **Nation** (*histories and legacies - decolonial debates ...*)
- **Sexuality** - LGBTQI+
- **Disability**
- **Religion**
- ?



THE BODY AS ARCHIVE

1. What is an archive?
2. What is the value of an archive?

HISTORY + MEMORY + MEANING

- How can the BODY be an archive?

"I want to talk about the Black body as a moving ancestral archive..."

Wanalisa Xaba (20 May 2021)



<https://culture-review.co.za/the-black-body-as-a-moving-ancestral-archive>